



Joint News Release

For Immediate Release
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BROOKS AND JOHNSON ANNOUNCE PARTNERSHIP WITH GRE

Monroe County Executive **Maggie Brooks** and Rochester Mayor **William A. Johnson, Jr.** today announced that they have finalized their agreement with Greater Rochester Enterprise (GRE), making GRE the single point of contact for economic development efforts in the community. This new partnership provides a coordinated, team approach for the retention, expansion and attraction of businesses throughout Monroe County and the Greater Rochester area.

"When I established the Economic Development Strategy Team, I asked the members to evaluate the multitude of economic development efforts underway in the community, and to recommend a structure that would create a system of one-stop shopping for businesses looking to expand, locate here, and create jobs," said **Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks**. *"This resulting partnership was the top recommendation of the Economic Development Strategy Team and will make our economic development efforts much more efficient and effective. I again thank the team members, and co-chairs Tom Mooney and Theresa Mazzullo, for their hard work."*

"Today's announcement underscores the importance of public-private partnerships in strengthening our economy, assisting local businesses, and bringing new investment to our community. The partnership will enable our community to truly speak with one unified voice," **Brooks** added. *"I thank Mayor Johnson and GRE Chairman Wayne LeChase for their collaborative efforts in establishing this win-win partnership."*

"The Memorandum of Understanding and the Partnership Agreement into which we have entered mark significant steps forward in our ongoing efforts to invigorate economic development in the Greater Rochester area," said **Mayor William A. Johnson, Jr.** *"While none of the parties forfeit their individual identities or abandon their mandated responsibilities, I believe we have forged a cooperative venture that will well-serve businesses seeking to establish themselves, expand, or remain in this community. I am very pleased that the City is an integral element of this partnership with the County and GRE."*

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Under the terms of the agreement, GRE will act as the single point of contact for economic development clients with responsibility for marketing, sales and client management. GRE will also provide client feedback and input to government economic development programs.

The County and City will maintain administrative and approval functions for economic development incentives and programs and work with GRE in offering incentives and programs in a coordinated team approach. The County and City will also continue to serve their present clients in their respective target areas.

*“This partnership between the City of Rochester, Monroe County and Greater Rochester Enterprise represents a major step forward in positioning the Rochester region as a unified, collaborative, business friendly location,” said **Wayne LeChase, Chairman of Greater Rochester Enterprise**. “For the first time, companies here and elsewhere have a single point of contact when looking to start, expand or relocate a business to Rochester and Monroe County. Our citizens can rest assured they have a partnership that is willing to step out in front and lead the effort to create jobs and grow our economy.”*

The **Rump Group** stated the following about the agreement:

“The Rump Group is delighted that the County, City and Greater Rochester Enterprise have formed a partnership to establish a single point of contact for economic development. This is a significant change, and it exemplifies the spirit of collaboration and cooperation our group believes is critical to our community’s future. The new partnership is an important first step toward making Greater Rochester more competitive. We applaud the County, City and GRE for collaborating on this agreement, and we look forward to supporting GRE in its expanded role.”

*“This collaborative team approach is exactly what we need to keep Monroe County moving forward and to create more job opportunities for local residents,” **Brooks** concluded.*

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Media Inquiries, contact:

Larry Staub, Monroe County at 428-2380

Rick Hannon, City of Rochester at 428-7407

Megan Connor Murphy, GRE at 383-0380